

MOTIONS FOR DEBATE FROM INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

To consider the following Motions of which notice has been given in accordance with Standing Order 4(A)

A. Councillors Paul Tilsley and Mike Ward have given notice of the following Notice of Motion:-

"This Council, mindful of the need to reduce energy consumption and greenhouse gases, calls upon HM Government to use its influence with the Big 6 energy providers to introduce a strategy by which Smart Meters will be installed systematically and using a common meter.

If all homes in Birmingham, numbering 410,000, are to have smart meters installed by 2020, the Government's target date, at the current cost of £400 per installation, the cost could be halved thereby saving a total of £82,000,000 in energy costs to Birmingham residents and help to reduce Energy Poverty."

B. Councillors Paulette Hamilton and John Cotton have given notice of the following Notice of Motion:-

"This City Council notes that seven years of public sector spending cuts has resulted in unprecedented cuts to both statutory and discretionary care services both here in Birmingham and across the country. The impact of these cuts upon the most vulnerable in our society is a matter of real concern and was again made very clear in the responses to the recent consultation on this Council's budget plans for 2017-18.

Council further notes that these concerns over the future funding and viability of social care services are widely shared across local government and by council leaders of all parties. It is clear that there is now a national crisis in the funding and provision of social care.

This Council observes with some concern that several Conservative-led local authorities, including Surrey and the Prime Minister's own local council in Windsor and Maidenhead, are now considering Council Tax rises of up to 15% in order to try and close the enormous funding gap in social care. This desperate measure further illustrates why immediate, radical action by Government is now required.

Accordingly, this Council warmly welcomes the statement by Lord Porter, Chairman of the Local Government Association that the Treasury should "grow up" and properly fund social care. It also endorses the call by Dr Sarah Wollaston MP, the Chair of the Commons Health Select Committee, for forthcoming talks on the future funding of health and social care to include both the NHS and representation from across the political parties.

Council requests that the Leader writes to the Prime Minister to support the call for cross party talks and to make the case for a new, fairer funding settlement for health and social care. Furthermore, this Council requests that the City's Members of Parliament lend their support to this call, so that our citizens are able to access properly funded, decent and sustainable health and social care services now and in the future."

C. Councillors Gary Sambrook and Ken Wood have given notice of the following Notice of Motion:-

"This Council believes that voter fraud, however perpetrated, on any scale is unacceptable.

The Council notes the findings of previous reviews into this matter, both within Birmingham and nationally, including the judicial review into the 2004 local elections in Birmingham, the 'Election Assessment Mission (EAM) 2015' conducted by the commonwealth parliamentary association UK (CPA UK) and most recently the 'Securing the Ballot' report by Eric Pickles that followed allegations of corruption in Tower Hamlets.

The Council commends the hard work and dedication of this City's electoral services staff in doing all they currently can within their current powers to fight this blight on our democracy. In particular we welcome the steps they took in the 2016 elections to roll out independent monitoring at polling stations, as an important step towards tackling voter fraud and intimidation.

This Council calls on the Returning Officer to ensure the continuation of this independent monitoring team.

This Council notes that to ensure the security of our democracy more still needs to be done to ensure our elections are free and fair."